

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims is presented for the convenience of the Office; no claim is amended:

1. (Previously presented) A disposable feminine hygiene paper-based product for combating yeast infections, comprising a portion formed from paper mulch, said portion comprising a plurality of fibers coated with an anti-fungal, water-insoluble, dark brown form of copper oxide directly bound to the fibers, which fibers have been added to said paper mulch and which fibers release Cu⁺⁺ ions when in contact with a fluid, wherein said disposable feminine hygiene paper-based product is selected from the group consisting of sanitary napkins, sanitary pads, panty shields and tampons.
2. (Original) A disposable feminine hygiene paper product according to claim 1 wherein said fibers are cellulosic fibers.
3. (Original) A disposable feminine hygiene paper product according to claim 1 wherein said coated fibers are disposed in said feminine hygiene paper product as randomly scattered fibers in a paper layer.
4. (Original) A disposable feminine hygiene paper product according to claim 1 wherein said coated fibers are dispersed in said feminine hygiene paper product in a layer positioned in said product in contact with the genital area of the user.
5. (Previously presented) A method for the manufacture of a disposable feminine hygiene paper product formed from paper mulch for combating yeast infections comprising incorporating into said paper mulch a plurality of dark-brown fibers coated with an anti-fungal, water-insoluble dark brown form of copper oxide directly bound to the fibers, which fibers release Cu⁺⁺ ions when in contact with a fluid, wherein said fibers are provided in a layer of said disposable product formed from said mulch adapted to be in contact with the genital area of the user.
6. (Original) A method according to claim 5 wherein said fibers are cellulosic fibers.

Application No. 10/756,849
Amdt. dated June 25, 2008
Reply to Office Action of December 27, 2007

7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein the fibers are finely chopped before addition to said paper mulch.